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5. [] LLM) In response to her earlier call and based on information from Personnel, [] in the office of Representative Frank Horton (R, N. Y.), was advised that we had no record of either current or former employment of a [] but that I would like to make one other check on Monday, if time permits. (Per [] is involved in a "multi-million dollar deal" with a constituent who understands that [] employee of the Agency several years ago and probably is now under contract.) [] said that she and her husband were former Agency employees and seemed to fully appreciate our desire to be responsive to [] interest while preserving necessary security.

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6. [] JMM) [] D/DCS, told us of word obtained by a [] from his FBI counterpart that Senator Charles Goodell (R., N. Y.) plans to assist the defense in the Sinclair trial (the "white panther" leader accused of bombing the Agency recruitment office in [] by providing depositions regarding sinister activities by the Agency which the Senator had learned about.

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7. [] JMM) Pat Holt, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, called in behalf of Staff Director Carl Marcy, to say that Marcy wanted us promptly informed of an exchange between Chairman Fulbright and Secretary Laird in open session today in which the Secretary insisted, and the Chairman denied, that the Agency had been involved in the Son Tay operation. See Memo for Record.

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8. [] - JMM) Al Westphal, House Foreign Affairs Committee staff, called to say he had been assured by NSA that they had no information re the case of the Lithuanian seaman who attempted to defect to the Coast Guard vessel. However Westphal said the Committee did have a problem in that some personal effects of this man which had been left on the Coast Guard vessel, including some of his notes, had been classified by the Coast Guard. Westphal said the Committee wanted this material presented in open session of the Committee on Monday, and wondered whether its classification had been at the Agency's insistence. After checking with [] I called Westphal to say that we saw no need for this material to be classified and had so informed the Coast Guard.

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25X1 12. [] JMM) Met with Mr. Pat Holt, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, in connection with the request that the Director appear before the Committee in connection with the Son Tay matter. See Memo for Record.

25X1 13. [] JMM) Met with Ralph Preston, Staff Assistant, House Appropriations Committee, whom I briefed on recent developments regarding Soviet ICBM deployment, Soviet air and naval activity in Egypt, Soviet submarines in Cuban waters, ChiCom strategic missile developments and the Cambodian situation.

Mr. Preston said he had just come from a meeting between Secretary Laird and Chairman Mahon in which the Chairman asked Laird why Defense had not objected to the Fulbright amendment in their reclama to the Defense Appropriations bill. Laird said he had not wanted to formally object but he thought this amendment should be deleted since it apparently caused some problems for CIA. Preston told me that Mahon agreed that the Fulbright amendment was undesirable and would probably oppose it in conference, but Preston thought it would be well for the Director to let the Chairman know firsthand about our problem with this amendment. I passed this suggestion on to the Director.

25X1 14. [] - JMM) Met with Al Westphal, House Foreign Affairs Committee staff, in response to his request. He said the Committee was much interested in the case of the attempted defection from the Soviet trawler of a Lithuanian seaman whom the Coast Guard had refused to accept. Westphal said the Committee had some info that there had been radio communications between the captain of the Russian trawler and the Soviet Embassy in Washington and asked if I could shed any light on this. I said this was out of our field but would check []
[]
[]

cc:

ER

O/DDCI

Mr. [], Mr. Houston, Mr. Goodwin

DDI DDS DDS&T EA/DDP OPPB

Item 3 - Mr. Brandwein

JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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OLC 70-0862

10 December 1970

MEMORANDUM FOR THE RECORD

SUBJECT: Meeting with Senate Foreign Relations Committee
Staff re Agency Role in Son Tay Matter

1. This morning I met with Mr. Pat Holt, Senate Foreign Relations Committee staff, in response to his request that the Director appear before the Committee in executive session on Monday, 14 December, to testify on the Son Tay matter. I explained to Mr. Holt that our involvement in and knowledge of this case was extremely limited, and that our formal appearance in this connection might create very serious problems for us in view of the political controversy that the case has stirred up.

2. In response to Holt's questions, I said that the Agency's role had been limited mainly to providing information about the physical features of the camp and surrounding terrain and the best approach routes to avoid Communist radar and anti-aircraft installations. I said that not only was the Director not present when the final decision regarding launching of the operation was reached, but in fact did not learn of this decision until the operation was already underway. I explained that the Agency had no responsibility for keeping track of the location and condition of American POWs in Vietnam--this was by common agreement the responsibility of DOD--but of course any information on this subject we might come across would be promptly turned over to DOD.

3. Finally I said that this whole matter was charged with political controversy, and that if we became involved in it as a result of appearing formally before the Committee it might make

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it more difficult in the future for us to be as responsive as we would like to Committee inquiries. I suggested that since we really had nothing much of significance to contribute on the current matter, it would be unfortunate if, by getting drawn into it, we would find our hands tied in connection with some future problem where we might indeed have something of importance which might be of interest to the Committee.

4. Mr. Holt said he would take this up with the Chairman, but he was not at all sure whether he could get us off the hook.

5. About noon, Mr. Holt called to say that our appeal had fallen on sympathetic ground and Chairman Fulbright had agreed to relent. However, Holt said the Chairman might wish to discuss the matter with the Director privately, in which case the Chairman would let us know. In response to my inquiry, Holt said the Chairman would probably appreciate a call from the Director thanking the Chairman for his understanding, but this was not at all necessary.

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JOHN M. MAURY
Legislative Counsel

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